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ABSTRACT

This study considers the nature and frequency of curricular offerings in 758 junior colleges in the United States. Courses are classified as transfer, occupational, or comprehensive (both transfer and occupational), and tables are provided showing how frequently a course was offered, its relative ranking based on the frequency, and the percentage of colleges offering these courses. Upon comparing these 1967 figures with similar tables constructed for 639 schools in a 1962 study, the following general observations are made: most significant increases in curricular offerings were found among the occupational courses, although the number of junior colleges with such offerings has not substantially increased. In addition, while occupational education receives increased attention at the public junior college, the current emphasis there is clearly on transfer courses, as it is to an even greater extent at the private junior college. Concluding, the author suggests that a greater emphasis must be placed on occupational education at the junior college level if national needs are to be met. [Not available in hard copy due to marginal legibility of original document.] (JO)

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DO CURRICULUMS REFLECT PURPOSES?

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The periodic publication of "American Junior Colleges" by the American Council on Education affords junior college administrators, faculty and other interested persons opportunity to assess the curricular offerings of public and private junior colleges across the nation. Specifically, it affords an opportunity to make some judgment of curricular offerings in terms of the "accepted purposes" of the junior college, particularly, transfer and occupational education.

The information reported in the accompanying Tables is based on the reports of 758 junior colleges, 511 public and 247 private, as reported in the 1967 edition of "American Junior Colleges."[1] The reference cited lists various curricular offerings and identifies junior colleges which offer such curricula. The data are presented in such a manner as to enable the reader to note the frequency of transfer, occupational, and comprehensive[2] curricular offerings, the numerical rank of listed offerings, and the percentage of junior colleges offering the curricula listed.

Table I reports curricular offerings in 758 public and private junior colleges. The total number of curricula tabulated was 9,896, of which 5,836 (59%) were transfer; 2,887 (29%) were occupational; and 1,173 (12%) comprehensive. The curricular emphasis is clearly transfer. The prominent exception: Secretarial and Clerical courses which were found in 439 (57.9%) junior colleges, and which represent the curricular offering found most frequently in the junior college.

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[1] Edmund J. Gleazer, "Curricula Offered by Junior Colleges", in American Junior Colleges, American Council on Education, Washington, D. C., pp. 825-906.

[2] Comprehensive, as used in this study, refers to curricula which are both transfer and occupational, i.e., Secretarial Training.

TABLE I

FREQUENCY OF OFFERINGS OF JUNIOR COLLEGE CURRICULUMS AMONG 758 JUNIOR COLLEGES LISTED IN "American Junior Colleges," 1967 edition, American Council on Education.

Curriculum	Transfer	Occupational	Comprehensive	Frequency of Mention	Numerical Rank	Percent of Colleges Offering
Secretarial and Clerical	59	285	95	439+	1	57.9+
Liberal Arts (transfer)	427	-	-	427-	2	56.3-
Engineering (transfer)	403	-	-	403+	3	53.2NC
Teaching	340	5	30	375+	4	49.5-
Nursing (Registered)	140	123	56	319	5	42.1
Sciences	286	2	28	316	6	41.7
Administration and Management	166	61	79	306+	7	40.2+
Accounting	136	83	80	299+	8	39.4+
Business	136	40	110	286+	9	37.7-
Music	241	7	32	280+	10	36.9-
Art	193	24	61	278+	11	36.7-
Medical (transfer)	272	-	-	272+	12	35.9-
Physical Education and Recreation	216	11	35	262+	13	34.6-
Home Economics	183	17	54	254+	14	33.5-
Agriculture	164	19	68	251+	15	33.1-
Pharmacy	238	1	11	250+	16	33.0-
Journalism	203	6	24	233+	17	31.0+
Denistry (transfer)	223	-	-	223-	18	29.4-
Forestry and Conservation	172	13	18	203+	19.5	27.0+
Speech and Drama	179	4	20	203+	19.5	27.0+
Architecture	139	26	36	201+	21	26.5+
Salesmanship and Retailing	39	107	41	187+	22	25.0+
Drafting	36	127	22	185+	23	24.4+
Data Processing	26	113	30	169+	24.5	22.3+
Veterinary Science	151	7	11	169+	24.5	22.3-
Trades and Industrial Arts	84	42	35	161	26	21.2
General Education	11	130	17	158-	27	21.0-
Police Science	51	64	37	152+	28	20.1+
Nursing (Practical)	8	130	8	146	29	19.3
Medical Technology (transfer)	143	-	-	143-	30.5	18.9-
Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technology	-	143	-	143-	30.5	18.9-
Electricity and Electronics	11	109	13	133+	32	17.5+
Mechanics	10	103	16	129+	33	17.0+
Library Science	98	10	9	117+	34	15.4+
Religion	108	2	6	116-	35	15.3-

NOTE: (+) and (-), which follow certain of the figures reported in this Table, indicates that a change has occured in the listed curricular offering when compared to similar offerings in 1962.

Curriculum	Transfer	Occupational	Comprehensive	Frequency of Mention	Numerical Rank	Percent of College Offering
Engineering Technology	-	114	-	114+	36	15.0+
Optometry	98	2	1	101+	37	13.3 NC
Mechanical Engineering Technology	-	98	-	98-	38	13.0-
Social and Behavioral Sciences	82	2	11	95	39	12.5
Metals and Machines	4	86	4	94+	40	12.4+
Therapy	69	10	6	85-	41	11.2-
Dental Assisting	18	51	5	74+	42	9.8+
Dental Hygiene	53	13	3	69+	43	9.1+
Architectural and Civil Engineering Technology	-	68	-	68+	44	9.0-
Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Management	16	43	7	66+	45	8.7+
Mathematics	54	1	6	60	46.5	7.9
Medical Laboratory Assistant	-	60	-	60	46.5	7.9
Medical Assisting	14	38	3	55	48	7.3
Construction	3	50	1	54+	49	7.1-
Chemical Engineering Technology	-	47	-	47-	50	6.2-
Industrial Engineering Technology	-	43	-	43-	51	5.7-
Aviation	9	20	3	32+	52	4.2+
Foreign Language	28	-	3	31	53	4.1
Air Conditioning Technology	-	30	-	30+	54	4.0+
Clothing Technology	12	14	3	29+	56	3.8-
Dental Technology	15	12	2	29+	56	3.8-
Printing	5	20	4	29+	56	3.8+
Radiology and X-Ray Technology	7	14	3	24	58.5	3.2
Cosmetology	1	23	-	24	58.5	3.2
Mortuary Science	17	4	-	21	60	2.8
Photography	2	15	2	19	61	2.5
Communications	5	11	2	18	62.5	2.4
Laboratory Technician	4	13	1	18	62.5	2.4
Child Development, Nursery	1	8	8	17	65	2.2
Fire Science	-	16	1	17	65	2.2
Metallurgical Engineering Technology	-	17	-	17-	65	2.2-
Aeronautical Engineering Technology	-	15	-	15-	67	2.0-
Marketing and Retailing	-	13	1	14	68.5	1.8
Real Estate	2	10	2	14	68.5	1.8
Transportation and Commerce	1	10	1	12	70	1.6
Horticulture	-	5	3	8	71.5	1.1
Trades	1	7	-	8	71.5	1.1
Airline Hostess	-	7	-	7	74	0.9
Instrumentation Technology	-	7	-	7	74	0.9
Surveying	1	6	-	7	74	0.9
Miscellaneous*	22	52	5	-	-	-
Totals	5836	2887	1173			
Percent	58.97	29.17	11.85			
Total Courses	9896					

* Miscellaneous courses include: Fashion Design, Health and Safety, Medical Recorder Librarian, Mineral Industries, Horology, Industrial Education, Industrial Laboratory Technology, Public and Industrial Relations, City Planning, Correction Administration, Engineering Aide, Fuel Technology, Interior Decorating, Carpentry, Court Reporting, Criminology, Design, Gunsmithing, Landscaping, Numerical Control, Psychiatric Nursing, Engineering Design, Materials Engineer, Nuclear Technology, Ophthalmic Dispensing, Optician Technology, Podiatry, Prosthetics, Textiles Technology, and Quality Control.

Transfer curricula found in significant numbers are Liberal Arts, Engineering, Teaching, Registered Nursing programs, the sciences, and various business offerings. Occupational curricula, other than Secretarial and Clerical, found in considerable number are nursing (RN and LPN), Salesmanship, Drafting, Data Processing, General Education and Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technology.

Though the latter are found most frequently, the reader's attention is directed to the "Frequency of Mention" (the number of institutions) column and the percent of colleges offering such courses. The figures are less than encouraging.

In an earlier study (1962) of junior college curricular offerings, information similar to that contained in Table I was gathered, thus making possible some comparisons and observations about curricular trends in the junior college. While the method of reporting curricular offerings has been modified, and though there has been some change in terminology, certain comparisons are still possible. It is to be noted that reports of curricular offerings were made by 639 colleges in 1962. while the number of colleges reporting in 1967 increased to 758. This represents an increase of 119 (18.6 percent) junior colleges in the five-year period between 1962-1967.

Where comparisons were possible, some rather significant findings were revealed. For example, in the period from 1962 to 1967, Data Processing courses increased in number by 124 (276 percent), and Dental Assisting courses increased by 40 (118 percent). Other courses with substantial percentage increases were: Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Management (74 percent), Electricity and Electronics (T and I) (62 percent), Police Science (62 percent), Mechanics (T and I) (54 percent). Engineering Technology (50 percent), and Aviation (T and I) (49 percent) Then

followed various transfer and occupational curricular offerings: Accounting, Forestry and Conservation, Architecture, Library Science, Metals and Machines (T and I), Salesmanship and Retailing, Administration and Management, Air Conditioning Technology, Drafting, Printing (T and I), and Journalism. All of the above mentioned offerings increased between 23 and 44 percent.

Other curricular offerings, mostly transfer in nature, experienced increases between 1.5 and 20 percent. These courses were Secretarial and Clerical, Speech and Drama, Optometry, Engineering, Art, Clothing Technology, Dental Hygiene, Music, Business, Veterinary Science, Pharmacy, Dental Technology, Teaching, Physical Education and Recreation, Home Economics, Agriculture, Medical, Construction (T and I), and Architectural and Civil Engineering Technology.

It is interesting, if not encouraging, to note that the most significant increases were found among occupational offerings, though it must be observed that the number and percentage of colleges currently offering such programs is still small in comparison to those offering transfer courses.

The comparison also revealed decreases in certain curricular offerings for the period 1962 to 1967. Among the decreases noted were: General Education (-34 percent), Medical Technology (-29 percent), Liberal Arts (-22 percent), Religion (-8 percent), and Therapy and Dentistry. Of particular interest were the number of engineering technology courses which decreased in number: Metallurgical (-29 percent), Industrial (-23 percent), Chemical (-23 percent), Electrical and Electronics (-2 percent), Mechanical (-1 percent), and Aeronautical (-6 percent). This raises an interesting question in view of the point made by a number of writers to the effect that "courses in engineering technology would probably receive increased emphasis in the junior college".

FREQUENCY OF OFFERINGS OF JUNIOR COLLEGE CURRICULUMS AMONG 511 PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGES LISTED "American Junior Colleges," 1967 edition, American Council on Education.

Curriculum	Transfer	Occupational	Comprehensive	Frequency of Mention	Numerical Rank	Percent of Colleges Offering
Engineering (transfer)	354	--	--	354	1	69.3
Secretarial and Clerical	35	216	73	324	2	63.4
Teaching	273	4	19	296	3	57.9
Nursing (Registered)	107	109	52	268	4	52.4
Sciences	240	2	26	268	5	52.4
Accounting	110	75	71	256	6	50.1
Administration and Management	133	50	70	253	7	49.5
Business	109	34	98	241	8	47.2
Art	165	17	52	234	9	45.8
Medical (transfer)	229	--	--	229	10	44.8
Physical Education and Recreation	184	10	34	228	11	44.6
Agriculture	143	18	66	227	12	44.4
Pharmacy	209	1	11	221	13	43.2
Music	191	2	25	218	14	42.7
Home Economics	161	12	44	217	15	42.5
Journalism	182	5	23	210	16	41.1
Liberal Arts (transfer)	207	--	--	207	17	40.5
Dentistry (transfer)	194	--	--	194	18	38.0
Architecture	127	24	36	187	19	36.6
Speech and Drama	164	1	16	181	20	35.4
Forestry and Conservation	151	13	16	180	21	35.2
Drafting	31	124	21	176	22	34.4
Data Processing	25	111	26	162	23	31.7
Trades and Industrial Arts	75	41	33	149	24	29.2
Salesmanship and Retailing	27	89	32	148	25	29.0
Veterinary Science	130	7	11	148	26	29.0
Police Science	47	64	37	148	27	29.0
Nursing (Practical)	6	129	8	143	28	28.0
Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technology	--	134	--	134	29	26.2
Electricity and Electronics	10	108	12	130	30	25.4
General Education	8	104	17	129	31	25.2
Mechanics	10	101	15	126	32	24.7
Medical Technology (transfer)	116	--	--	116	33	22.7
Engineering Technology	--	109	--	109	34	21.3
Library Science	88	9	9	106	35	20.7

Curriculum	Transfer	Occupational	Comprehensive	Frequency of Mention	Numerical Rank	Percent of Colleges Offering
Optometry	93	2	1	96	36	18.8
Mechanical Engineering Technology	--	91	--	91	37	17.8
Metals and Machines	4	83	4	91	38	17.8
Social and Behavioral Sciences	70	2	11	83	39	16.2
Therapy	61	9	6	76	40	14.9
Dental Assisting	15	51	5	71	41	13.9
Religion	63	2	1	66	42	12.9
Architectural and Civil Engineering Technology	--	65	--	65	43	12.7
Dental Hygiene	47	12	2	61	44	11.9
Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Management	13	42	6	61	45	11.9
Mathematics	50	1	6	57	46	11.2
Medical Laboratory Assistant	--	50	--	50	47	10.0
Medical Assisting	10	37	3	50	48	10.0
Construction	2	44	1	47	49	9.2
Chemical Engineering Technology	--	44	--	44	50	8.6
Industrial Engineering Technology	--	42	--	42	51	8.2
Aviation	7	19	3	29	52	5.7
Foreign Language	26	--	3	29	53	5.7
Air Conditioning Technology	--	29	--	29	54	5.7
Printing	3	19	4	26	55	5.1
Clothing Technology	10	14	1	25	56	4.9
Dental Technology	11	12	2	25	57	4.9
Cosmetology	1	22	--	23	58	4.5
Radiology and X-Ray Technology	6	13	3	22	59	4.3
Mortuary Science	17	3	--	20	60	3.9
Photography	2	13	2	17	61	3.3
Laboratory Technology	3	13	1	17	62	3.3
Fire Science	--	16	1	17	63	3.3
Metallurgical Engineering Technology	--	17	--	17	64	3.3
Communications	5	8	2	15	65	2.9
Aeronautical Engineering Technology	--	13	--	13	66	2.5
Real Estate	2	10	1	13	67	2.5
Transportation and Commerce	1	10	1	12	68	2.3
Child Development, Nursery	1	6	4	11	69	2.2
Marketing and Advertising	--	10	--	10	70	2.0
Horticulture	--	5	3	8	71	1.6
Trades	1	7	--	8	72	1.6
Instrumentation Technology	--	7	--	7	73	1.4
Air Line Hostess	--	6	--	6	74	1.2
Surveying	1	5	--	6	75	1.2
Miscellaneous Courses *	21	47	1			
TOTAL COURSES	4787	2623	1031	Total	8441	
PERCENT	56.7	31.1	12.2		100.0	

* MISCELLANEOUS COURSES included:

Building Contracting (1), City Planning and Urban Development (3), Correction Administration (3), Criminology (2), Engineering Aide (3), Engineering Design Technology (1), Fashion Design (5), Fuel Technology (3), Gunsmithing (2), Health and Safety (5), Horology (4), Industrial Education (3), Industrial Laboratory Technology (4), Interior Decorating (2), Landscaping (2), Medical Records Librarian (4), Mineral Industries (5), Nuclear Technology (1), Numerical Control (2), Nursing (Psychiatric) (2), Ophathalmic Dispensing (1), Optical Technology (1), Podiatry (1), Prosthetics (1), Public and Industrial Relations (3), Quality Control (1), Textile Engineering Technology (1), Woodworking and Carpentry (3).

Table II reports data on curricula offerings in 511 public junior colleges. Of the 8,441 course offerings reported by the public junior colleges, 4,787 (57%) were transfer, 2,623 (31%) occupational, and 1,031 (12%) were comprehensive. Among the public junior colleges, Engineering and Secretarial and Clerical offerings were found most frequently. These offerings were followed by Teaching, Nursing, the sciences, and several business offerings. Among the twenty curricular offerings most frequently mentioned, only two, Secretarial and Clerical and Nursing (RN) suggest an occupational emphasis. Other occupational programs receiving emphasis in the public junior college are: Drafting, Data Processing, Salesmanship and Retailing, Police Science, Electrical and Electronics (Engineering Technology and T and I), General Education, Mechanics (T and I), and Engineering Technology. Though Table II suggests considerable variety in occupational offerings, the number and percentage of such offerings are found in only one-third or less of the public junior colleges. The curricular emphasis in the public junior college is unquestionably transfer, though it is clear that occupational education is receiving increased attention.

Table III reports the curricular offerings of 247 private junior colleges. Among 1,457 course offerings in private junior colleges, 1,047 (72%) were transfer, 266 (18%) occupational, and 149 (10%) comprehensive. As one might expect, Liberal Arts courses were emphasized and offered in 220 (89%) of the private institutions. As with the public junior college, though to a greater degree, the curricular emphasis is transfer education. Among the thirty occupational offerings listed, only four, Secretarial and Clerical, Salesmanship and Retailing, General Education, and Medical Laboratory Assistant suggested an occupational emphasis. As one would expect, curricular offerings clearly

TABLE III

FREQUENCY OF OFFERINGS OF JUNIOR COLLEGE CURRICULUMS AMONG 247 PRIVATE JUNIOR COLLEGES LISTED IN "American Junior Colleges," 1967 edition, American Council on Education

Curriculum	Transfer	Occupational	Comprehensive	Frequency of Mention	Numerical Rank	Percent of Colleges Offering
Liberal Arts	220	--	--	220	1	89.1
Secretarial and Clerical	24	69	22	115	2	46.6
Teaching	67	1	11	79	3	32.0
Music	50	5	7	62	4	25.1
Administration/Management	33	11	9	53	5	21.5
Nursing (Registered)	33	14	4	51	6	20.6
Religion	45	--	5	50	7	20.2
Engineering	49	--	--	49	8	19.8
Sciences	46	--	2	48	9	19.4
Business	27	6	12	45	10	18.2
Art	28	7	9	44	11	17.8
Accounting	26	8	9	43	12.5	17.4
Medical	43	--	--	43	12.5	17.4
Salesmanship and Retailing	12	18	9	39	14	15.8
Home Economics	22	5	10	37	15	15.0
Physical Education/Recreation	32	1	1	34	16	13.8
Pharmacy	29	--	--	29	18	11.8
General Education	3	26	--	29	18	11.8
Dentistry	29	--	--	29	18	11.8
Medical Technology	27	--	--	27	20	10.9
Agriculture	21	1	2	24	21	9.7
Journalism	21	1	1	23	22.5	9.3
Forestry and Conservation	21	--	2	23	22.5	9.3
Speech and Drama	15	3	4	22	24	8.9
Veterinary Science	21	--	--	21	25	8.5
Architecture	12	2	--	14	26	5.7
Social and Behavioral Sciences	12	--	--	12	27	4.9
Trades and Industrial Arts	9	1	2	12	28	4.9
Library Science	10	1	--	11	29	4.5
Medical Laboratory Assistant	--	10	--	10	30	4.0
Miscellaneous Courses *	62	76	21			
TOTAL COURSES	1049	266	142		1457	
PERCENT	72.0	18.3	9.7		100.0	

* MISCELLANEOUS COURSES include:

Aeronautical Engineering Technology (2), Air Conditioning Technology (1), Air Line Hostess (1), Architectural and Civil Engineering Technology (3), Aviation (3), Chemical Engineering Technology (3), Child Development and Nursery (6), Clothing Technology (4), Communications (3), Construction (7), Cosmetology (1), Court Reporting (2), Data Processing (7), Dental Assisting (3), Dental Hygiene (8), Dental Technology (4), Design (2), Drafting (9), Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technology (9), Electricity and Electronics (3), Engineering Technology (5), Fashion Design (1), Foreign Language (2), Health and Safety (1), Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Management (5), Industrial Education (1), Industrial Engineering Technology (1), Interior Decorating (1), Laboratory Technology (1), Marketing and Advertising (4), Materials Engineering Technology (1), Mathematics (3), Mechanical Engineering Technology (7), Mechanics (3), Medical Assisting (5), Medical Records Librarian (2), Metals and Machines (3), Mortuary Science (1), Nursing (Practical) (3), Optometry (5), Photography (2), Police Science (4), Printing (3), Public and Industrial Relations (1), Radiology and X-Ray Technology (2), Real Estate (1), Surveying (1), Therapy (9).

reflect the transfer emphasis of the private junior college.

An examination of the curricular offerings of both public and private junior colleges, based on the broad occupational areas of Business, Health Services, Engineering Technology, Trade and Industrial, and Service areas, permits another perspective of the junior college curriculum.

Business offerings were found most frequently. There were, for example, 1,714 (17%) business offerings reported, with Secretarial and Clerical (439 institutions) found most frequently, followed by Administration and Management (306), Accounting (299), Business (General) (286), Salesmanship and Retailing (187), Data Processing (169), Marketing and Retailing (14) and Real Estate (14). Business courses increased by 37 percent during the period, 1962-1967. In both the public and private junior college the emphasis favors transfer programs.

Health Services accounted for 862 (9%) of all courses offered in the junior colleges. Nursing courses, RN and LPN, accounted for 465 courses and represented a 42 percent increase since 1962. Other courses found in the health services area include dental assisting, dental hygiene, dental technician, radiology and X-ray, and various laboratory technician courses. Over all, courses in this significant area increased approximately 64 percent since 1962. This dramatic increase was greater than the increase of any other curricular area.

Engineering Technology courses numbered 575 (6%) of all courses listed. Most frequently offered were Electrical and Electronics (143 institutions). Engineering Technician (114), Air Conditioning (30), Architectural and Civil (68), Aeronautical (15), Mechanical (98), Chemical (47), Industrial (43), and Metallurgical (17). For the five-year period, 1962-1967, Engineering Technology

courses increased only slightly over one percent which would not suggest an increasing interest on the part of junior colleges in engineering technology curricula.

Trade and Industrial courses totaled 471, or five percent of the total courses offered in the junior college. Electrical and Electronics, found in 133 institutions, experienced a substantial increase of 62 percent since 1962. Other courses in this instructional area include Mechanics (129), Metals and Machines (94), Aviation (32), Printing (29), and Construction (54). The number of Trade and Industrial courses increased approximately 43 percent since 1962, an increase significantly ahead of the increase noted in engineering technology.

In the Service Areas, 259 (3%) courses were reported. Most frequently offered were Police Science (152 institutions), followed by Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Management courses, cound in 66 junior colleges, Fire Science (17), and Cosmetology (24).

But transfer courses continue to receive the greatest emphasis in the junior college. Approximately 60 percent of all junior college offerings are transfer in nature. Table I clearly indicates this point and identifies those transfer offerings most frequently offered in the junior colleges. James Thornton, in his book, The Community Junior College, notes that ". . . the idea of junior college educational for occupational life has not yet achieved full acceptance in American educational or social thought." Neither, it is clear, has it achieved full acceptance in the junior college. This study of junior college curricula clearly supports this point and brings to mind a statement in the Harvard Report, "General Education in a Free Society" that ". . . it is a strange state of affairs in an industrial democracy when those very

subjects are held in disrepute which are at the heart of the national economy and those students by implication condemned who will become its operators".

The continued emphasis on transfer programs, in view of the high mortality rate among students enrolled in such programs, ought to cause serious soul-searching among administrators and guidance counselors.

Do curriculums reflect purposes? The primary emphasis and attention to transfer courses in the private junior college is reflected in this study. The public junior college accords transfer education continued emphasis, and though the number of different occupational offerings has increased, the number of junior colleges offering occupational curricula has not increased substantially. The public junior colleges must direct greater attention and effort to occupational education if they are to meet the needs of the nation.

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